

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The present invention provides plant retroelements useful as molecular tools. In one embodiment, the present invention provides nucleic acids encoding gag, pol and/or env genes of plant retroelements. The elements can be used, among other uses, as building blocks of other constructs, tools to find other nucleic acid sequences and tools to transfer nucleic acid into cells.

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL873859675US

Date of Deposit: September 27, 2001

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